



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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VIRGINIA'S PRODUCERS EXPECT HIGH YIELDS IN 2011

Based on conditions as of October 1, Virginia's corn yields are forecast to average 119 bushels per acre, up 52 bushels per acre from last year. If realized, production would be 40.5 million bushels up 95 percent from 2010. Producers expect to harvest 340,000 acres for grain this year.

Virginia's soybean yields are expected to be 39 bushels per acre which is 13 bushels per acre more than last year. Production is estimated at 21.1 million bushels, up 50 percent from 2010. Harvested acres are at 540,000, unchanged from last year.

Alfalfa hay production is expected to be up 33 percent from last year to 245,000 tons. Alfalfa yield is expected to average 3.50 tons per acre, 1.20 ton per acre more than in 2010. The forecasted yield for other hay is 2.20 tons per acre. Other hay production is forecast at 2.82 million tons, up 41 percent from 2010.

Cotton producers currently expect to harvest 115,000 acres with an average yield of 835 pounds per acre. Production is expected to total 200,000 bales, up 60 percent from last year.

Burley tobacco producers expect an average yield of 1,800 pounds per acre from 2,000 acres. Production is forecast at 3.60 million pounds, up 560,000 pounds from last year.

Flue-cured tobacco yield is forecast at 2,400 pounds per acre, up 120 pounds from 2010. Production is estimated to be 46.8 million pounds, up 7.90 million pounds from last year.

Fire-cured tobacco yield is forecast at 1,900 pounds per acre, down 190 pounds from the 2010 estimate. If realized, production would total 760 thousand pounds, down 44 percent from last year.

The forecasted peanut yield of 3,500 pounds per acre is up 1,620 pounds per acre from 2010. Production is forecast at 56.0 million pounds, up 65 percent from last year. As of October 11, harvesting activities had begun with 13 percent of the crop combined.

Apple production in Virginia is forecast at 215 million pounds, up 15 million pounds from last year. As of October 11, fall and winter apple harvest in Virginia was 25 percent completed.

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Cooperating with Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Corn Production Down 1 Percent from September Forecast
Soybean Production Down 1 Percent
Cotton Production Up Slightly
Orange Production Up 1 Percent from Last Season

Corn production is forecast at 12.4 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the September forecast and down slightly from the 2010 production estimate. If realized, this will be the fourth largest production total on record for the United States. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 148.1 bushels per acre, unchanged from the September forecast but down 4.7 bushels from 2010. If realized, this will be the lowest average yield since 2005. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 83.9 million acres, down 1 percent from the September forecast. Acreage updates were made in several States based on administrative data.

Soybean production is forecast at 3.06 billion bushels, down 1 percent from September and down 8 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.5 bushels per acre, down 0.3 bushel from last month and down 2 bushels from last year. If realized, the average yield will be the second lowest since 2003. Area for harvest is forecast at 73.7 million acres, down slightly from September and down 4 percent from 2010.

All cotton production is forecast at 16.6 million 480-pound bales, up slightly from last month but down 8 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 809 pounds per harvested acre, down 3 pounds from last year. Upland cotton production is forecast at 15.9 million 480-pound bales, down 10 percent from 2010. American Pima production, forecast at 737,200 bales, was carried forward from last month.

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